

City of Rocks Junior Ranger

What I experienced at City of Rocks National Reserve...

Place a check mark next to the areas you visited:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bath Rock | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor Center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Register Rock | <input type="checkbox"/> Campground |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Grove | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

Place a check mark next to other activities you did:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saw Stars | <input type="checkbox"/> Camped |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walked a trail | <input type="checkbox"/> Had a picnic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climbed a rock | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

Be An Artist!

Draw a picture or write about what you liked the MOST

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

_____ has completed the Junior Program at

CITY OF ROCKS NATIONAL RESERVE

As a Junior Ranger, I promise to explore, learn about, and protect special places like City of Rocks National Reserve

Witnessed by: _____ Date: _____



City of Rocks National Reserve
P.O. Box 169
Almo, ID 83312
www.nps.gov/ciro

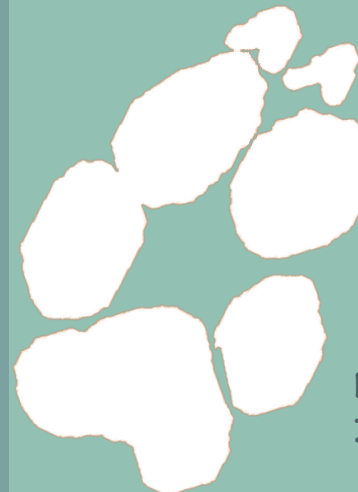
Compiled by: Justin Lofthouse
Updated: 7.2014

City of Rocks National Reserve Junior Ranger



Activity Booklet for ages 5-9
Finish 7 Activities to Complete

Explore
Learn
Protect



Actual size of a coyote track. Place your hand over it. How do they compare?



National Park Service in partnership with
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation





W

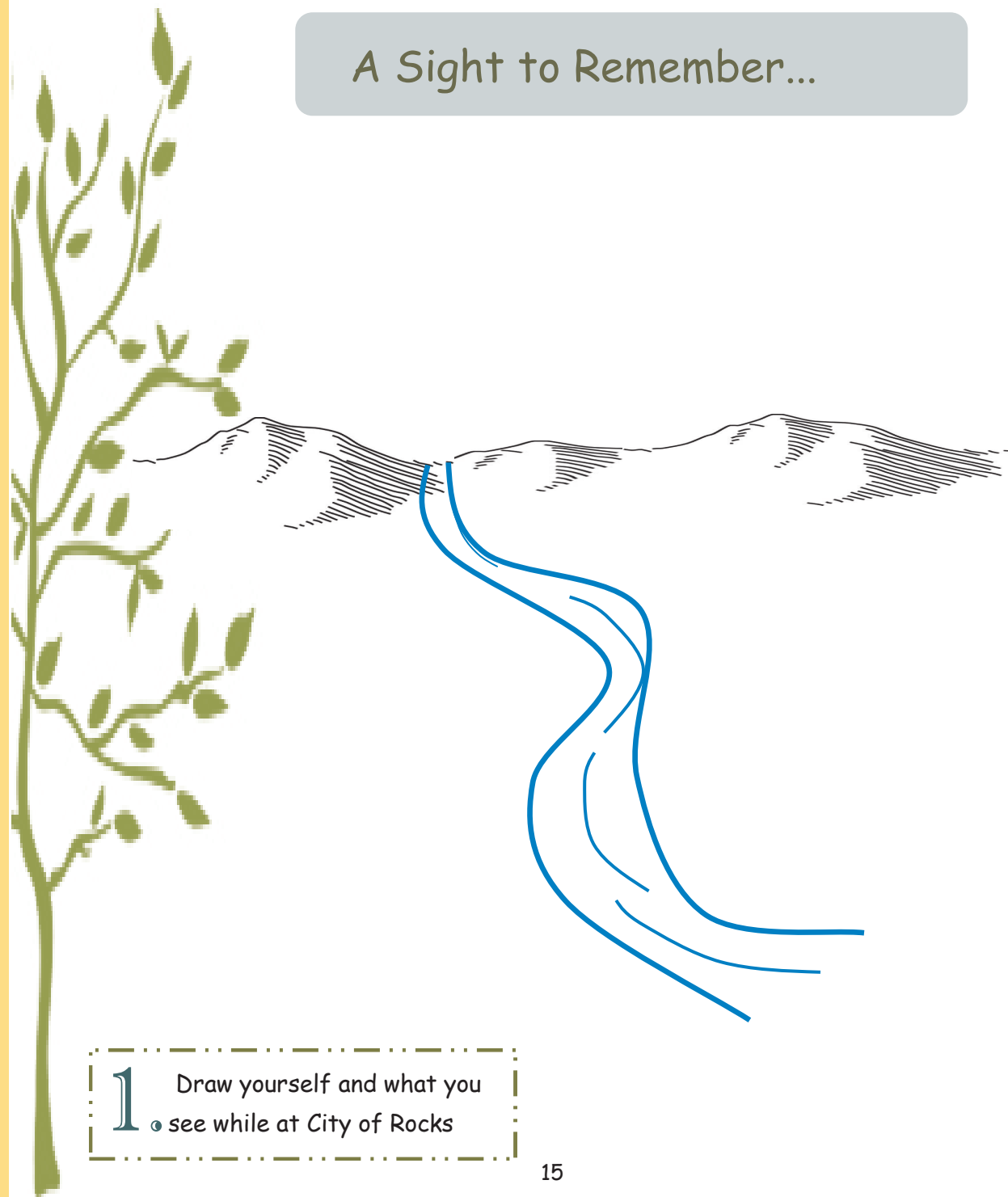
elcome to City of Rocks
National Reserve

City of Rocks has many activities to offer visitors, from site-seeing to rock climbing and hiking. Learn all about City of Rocks National Reserve by talking with a ranger at the visitor center.

Park employees work hard to protect and preserve the natural and historical features of the park. This Junior Ranger Program was designed to help you and your family enjoy the Reserve, as well as help the rangers protect its features. When you become a Junior Ranger you have an opportunity to help preserve the history and its natural wonders.

Junior Ranger Pledge

- To enjoy nature without picking plants or injuring wildlife.
- To help keep our reserve clean and free of litter.
- To only climb where I can safely climb down.
- To be a positive example for other park visitors.
- To explore the wonders of City of Rocks National Reserve.
- To invite others to visit City of Rocks National Reserve.



A Sight to Remember...

1 Draw yourself and what you
see while at City of Rocks

Wildflower Watch

- 1 Draw and color a wildflower you find in the park.

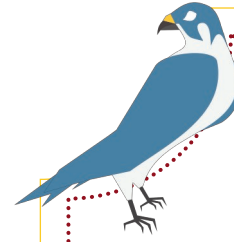


Each piece has a purpose...

The center part of the flower holds the reproductive organs, the **stamen** and **pistil**. Bright, colorful, showy **petals** attract insects that pollinate flowers. Arrow shaped **leaves** turn light from the sun into food for the plant. A tall, strong **stem** holds up the flower and moves nutrients throughout the plant. **Roots** collect water and nutrients from the ground. Each part, no matter how small, plays an important role in the plants life.



I Sense a Scavenger Hunt



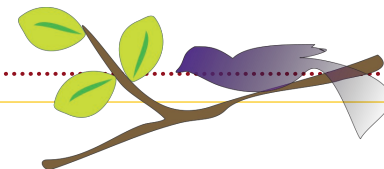
Can you **SEE** something:
flying ☐, round ☐, red ☐, rough ☐

Can you **HEAR**:
wind blowing ☐, birds singing ☐,
water running ☐

Can you **SMELL**:
flowers ☐, Pinyon Pine needles ☐,
something stinky ☐

Can you **FEEL**:
Juniper seeds ☐, granite ☐, something fuzzy ☐,
grass ☐

Can you use all your **SENSES** to find: a spider's
web ☐, blooming flowers ☐, a hole in the ground ☐
a nest ☐



What am I?

Some wildlife can be hard to spot in the City of Rocks. If you keep a sharp look out, you may be surprised by how much life you see!

Draw a line to connect the animals to its tracks.



Turkey Vulture



Mountain Lion



Jack Rabbit



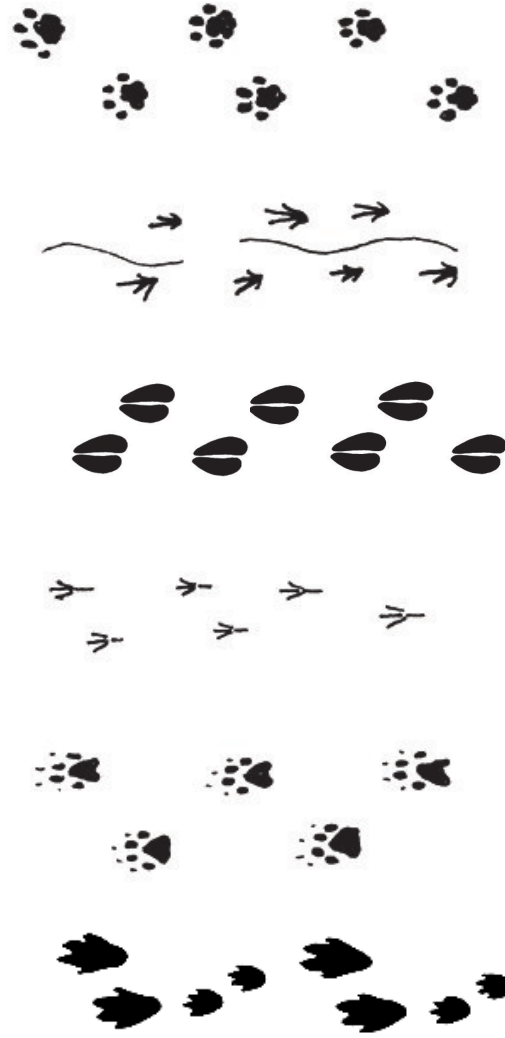
Mule Deer



Lizard

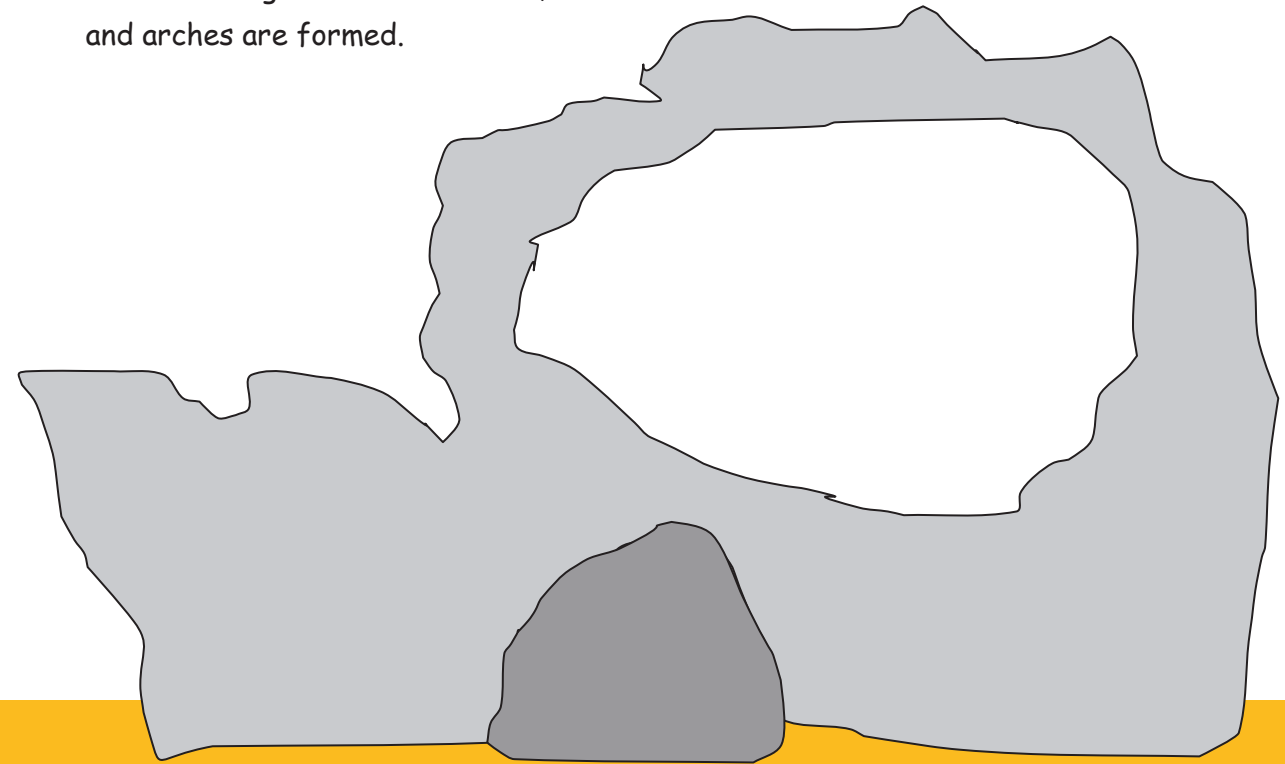


Coyote



Windows, Arches, and Natural Bridges

Salt and water work together to break down the granite in amazing scoops and honeycomb features known as tafoni. When tafoni breaks through to the other side, windows and arches are formed.



2. Can you draw yourself in this arch?

What did you see?

1. Make a checkmark by the animals that you see on your visit...



☐ Mule Deer



☐ Chipmunk



☐ Greater Sage Grouse

☐ Great Horned Owl



☐ Red-tailed Hawk



☐ Pronghorn



☐ Mountain Lion

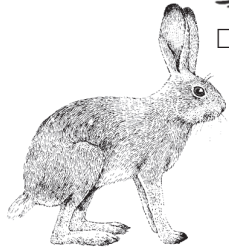


☐ Bighorn Sheep



☐ Golden Eagle

2. Draw a circle around all of the animals you think are smaller than you.



☐ Jackrabbit



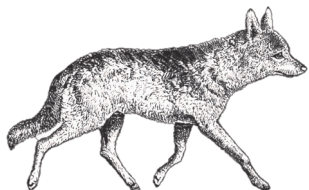
☐ Red Fox



☐ Turkey Vulture



☐ Pinyon Jay



☐ Coyote



☐ Yellow-bellied Marmot

3. Draw a triangle around all of the animals you think are larger than you.

- I hunt small animals for food.
- I sometimes walk on my toes to make as little noise as possible.
- At night, you can often hear me yip and howl.
- I am a member of the canine (dog) family.

I AM THE _____.

- I eat plants
- I am active during night and early morning
- During the summer I move to higher elevations
- My ears are large like mule

I AM THE _____.

- I eat very small insects, hundreds of them every day.
- I flick my tongue in the air to smell.
- I store my body fat in my long tail.
- My tail can detach to escape from predators.

I AM THE _____.

- I am rarely seen and my activities are at night.
- I eat deer, but sometimes rabbits and rodents.
- My home is a den in a very hidden spot.
- I am a member of the feline (cat) family.

I AM THE _____.

- I have a strong sense of smell, unlike other species in my family.
- I eat dead or dying things.
- I have a bald head.
- My wing span can be up to 5 1/2 feet.

I AM THE _____.

- I am capable of reaching speeds of 40 miles per hour
- I run in a zigzag pattern to evade my many predators.
- My hind legs are powerful, and I can leap more than 10 feet.
- I have very long ears.

I AM THE _____.

Westward Bound for Land, Freedom, Gold, and Adventure!



In the middle of the 19th Century, **emigrants** were packing their belongings and pointing themselves **west**. Unlike today, this trip would take up to **6 months** and require grueling toil and heartbreaks. They traveled westward in the hope of finding **gold, land, & religious freedom**.

This **determination** to open the American west was driven by the **dream** for a better tomorrow for themselves and their **families**. Packing up their entire life belongings and marching into the **unknown** was a truly **frightening** experience. Wagons and people passed through **seemingly endless prairie**, struggled up and down steep mountains, forded rivers, and crossed sunbaked deserts.

How great is our **pioneer heritage!**

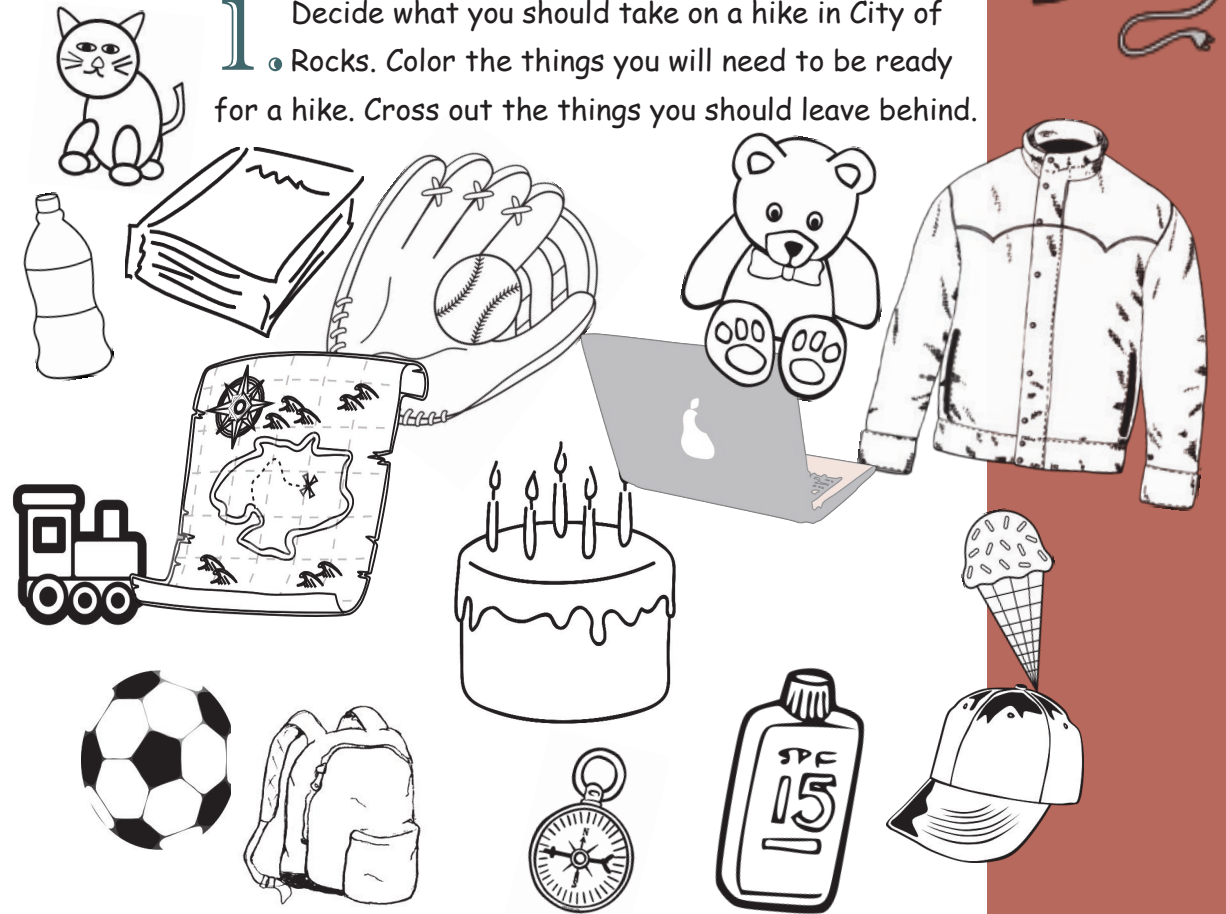
Imagine that you are on a similar expedition and heading out on your very first day. Draw yourself and what you would take with you.

Did you know? Between 1843 & 1882, nearly 1/4 million people traveled the California Trail.

Ready, Set... Hike!



1 Decide what you should take on a hike in City of Rocks. Color the things you will need to be ready for a hike. Cross out the things you should leave behind.



What trails have you hiked at City of Rocks? _____

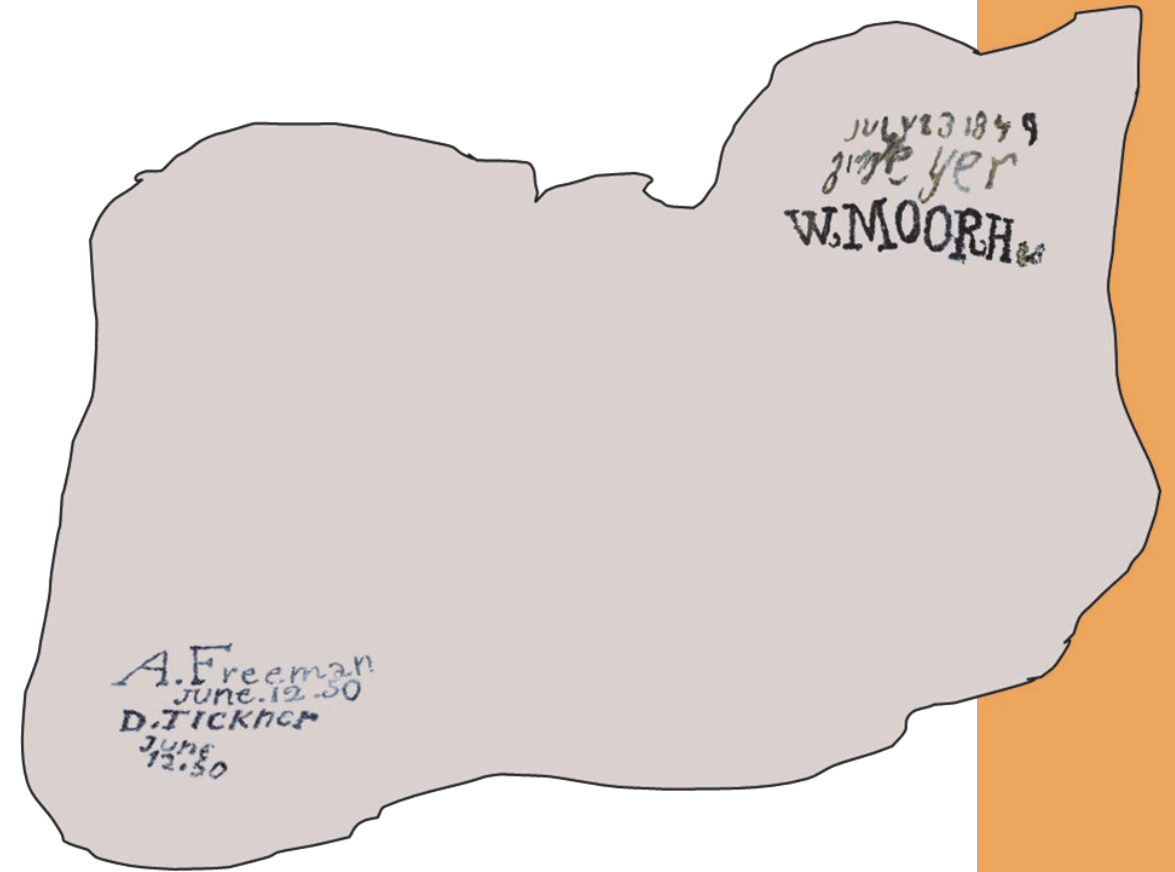
What was your favorite part of the hike? Why? _____

Remember, while hiking, only take pictures and leave only footprints. Leave your surroundings the way that you found them so that the next visitor can enjoy it the way you did...

You and the City



A Step Back in Time...



Emigrants following the California Trail wrote their names with axel grease on Camp Rock and Register Rock. Sometimes they wrote their whole name, other times just the first letters of their name. They would also leave the date that they were in the "Silent City".

1. If you were an emigrant, how would you write your name? Use the space above to leave your name...
2. Who else can you get to sign their name?

1. Sit **quietly** for a moment. What do you **see** around you? Do you see trees? Flowers? Grasses? Do you see any birds? Look carefully at the plants and animals in the **habitat** you're visiting and then **draw what you see** into your habitat picture **below**.

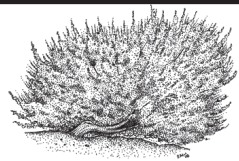
Habitat: Its all around us!

What is a habitat? It's the trees, sagebrush, flowers, and even the rocks and dirt. Habitat is where animals find food, water, and shelter. For the animals in the City of Rocks, habitat is another name for home.

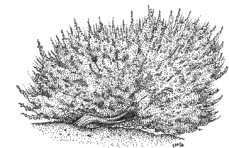
Spruce-fir-pine forest



Pinyon-juniper-mahogany forest



Sagebrush steppe



Creeks & ponds